United Nations S/2000/391

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 May 2000

Original: English

**Letter dated 7 May 2000 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have been instructed by my Government to forward the attached text of a broadcast message to the nation by His Excellency President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, on recent events concerning UNAMSIL in Sierra Leone.

I should be grateful if the message could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sylvester E. **Rowe**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative (Political Affairs)

00-42098 (E) 070500

## Annex to the letter dated 7 May 2000 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone addressed to the President of the Security Council

### Broadcast to the nation by H. E. President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah on recent events concerning UNAMSIL in Sierra Leone

Several times in the past, I have said to you that your Government which you had elected will not allow itself to be taken unawares by an individual or group intent on destroying the lives and property of its citizens. Today, I wish to assure you that our resolve has not waned.

I realize that the events of the past several days have been very traumatic for you all. However, I ask you to have faith in your Government. We have all been extremely disappointed at the way some UNAMSIL troops have capitulated to RUF forces, but we have not yet reached the stage where we believe the United Nations is incapable of fulfilling its mandate. I have been assured by the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General that UNAMSIL is prepared to fully discharge its mandate, including the defence and protection of Freetown.

Up till this point, the Government has refrained from getting directly involved in military action against those who seem bent on derailing the peace process. We still believe that the implementation of the Lomé Peace Agreement is the best way to achieve lasting peace in our country. However, I would like to assure you that Government has an effective contingency plan in place which will be activated in the unlikely event that UNAMSIL is unable to provide adequate security in the face of aggressive action.

Fellow citizens, the unfortunate incident of misinformation that happened last night has no doubt created a lot of confusion in your minds. However, let us not compound the problem by spreading unfounded rumours. This only serves to create unnecessary panic, which is exactly what those who are seeking to destroy our country thrive on. As your elected President, I am committed to serving you and will do all in my power to ensure your safety and security. I therefore urge you all to rely on official Government releases for accurate information. We shall endeavour to keep you well informed.

Finally, I would like to warn all those intent on raining death and destruction on the citizens of this country to desist immediately. Failure to do so will result in dire consequences for the perpetrators. Be assured that I am determined to ensure that the nightmare in our history are not repeated.

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# Security Council

Distr. General
8 May 2000

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## Letter dated 7 May 2000 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have authorized the mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to visit Eritrea and Ethiopia during the week of 8 May 2000.

Members of the Council have agreed on the terms of reference of the Security Council Mission to Eritrea and Ethiopia (see annex). They would be most grateful if appropriate officials could be advised in order to make the necessary arrangements for the mission.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
President of the Security Council

00-42114 (E) 080500

# Annex

7 May 2000

## Terms of reference for Security Council Mission to Eritrea and Ethiopia

1. Concerned by the ongoing conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the Security Council has authorized its Mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to visit these two countries in the region during the week of 8 May 2000. The Mission will travel to Addis Ababa and Asmara to meet with the Government of Ethiopia and the Government of Eritrea.

2. The Mission, acting on the basis of relevant Security Council decisions, will express in the strongest possible terms the Council's support for the Organization of African Unity peace process, for its current Chair Algeria, and for their ongoing efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement to this conflict. The Mission will urge strongly both parties to refrain from resorting to force and further hostilities, and to commit immediately, seriously and without precondition to negotiations to achieve final consolidated technical arrangements for implementation of the OAU Framework Agreement and its Modalities for Implementation.

3. The Mission will thereafter report back to the Security Council on its findings.